



The QUARAE



Volume 13, Issue 1

February 2012

Radio Association of Erie General Membership Meeting Minutes December 1, 2011

The December meeting was called to Order by President AD4UL via Skype at 7:04.

Board Members Present: AD4UL (Via Skype), KE3V, N3NKV, KB3NAT.
Not Present: N3JOC, K3PLV, WB3DOM, N3DBC,

AD4UL suspended all business for the program. The program was BBC's Hancock the Radio Ham.

AD4UL reconvened the meeting at 7:32 pm.

New Hams: None

Guests: K1ZIK Ed Barlow

Silent Keys: None

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept the minutes as sent via e-mail and posted to w3gv.org was made by KB3VJZ and Seconded by AD4UL.

Treasurer's Report: N3NKV provided the current balance and a description of the various transactions that took place in the checking account. Total inflows was \$413.83 and Total Outflow was \$232.18. For a net gain of \$238.18. A copy of the Treasurer's report was sent to AD4UL as of 5 pm on 11/30/2011.

Membership Report: N3NKV reported there were 15 full members, 2 Associate, and 17 Life Members for a total of 33. N3NKV reported that membership mailers were sent out during around the week of thanksgiving.

Repeaters: KB3CAT reported that there was nothing new report. N3NKV reported that he has added the tail messages to the controller for the 10 meter nets. N3NKV reported that the controller is still having problems with the clock reset issue. He had a opportunity to check to make sure there everything was plugged in properly and there were no

electrical issues for the UPS to run properly and all looked well. The next step is to upgrade the firmware. The same issue is happening on 82.

Public Service: Nothing

Website: N3NKV noted that there the current website is having spam issue on the comment section. In order to control that he recommend that the club go back to a regular hosting company. N3NKV made a motion that club purchase 1 year of hosting at Godaddy.com for the price of \$53.88. Seconded by KB3VJZ. All in Favor.

Newsletter: AD4UL mentioned that a newsletter editor is needed. N3NKV mentioned that he will provide the MS Publisher files and club logos and photos to whomever takes over.

Clubhouse: AD4UL mentioned that he was not sure if the clubhouse was winterized. No status was available about the shutter s was available. KB3NAT reported that the TS-2000 was at his QTH for winter storage.

Contesting: WB3IFD reported that the 10 meter Worldwide contest was coming up the 2nd weekend in December.

New/Old Business:

Special Event Stations: WB3IFD mentioned the idea of a special event station for Bayfront Center for Maritime Studies Cardboard Boat Race During the Summer. AD4UL mention that WH6KQ is the Director there. The idea of having one for 200th Anniversary of the War of 1812 was brought up.

Secretary Needed: AD4UL reported that a secretary is still needed for 2012.

Board Meeting: AD4UL mentioned that the next board meeting would be December 29th. Both old and new board members are asked to attend.

Paypal: AD4UL mentioned that it was asked why the club does not use Paypal. Upon discussion, N3NKV made motion to use Paypal as a method for collecting dues for 1

year. Seconded by KB3VJZ. All in Favor. N3NKV mentioned he would set it up.

St. Joseph's Church Interference Issues: No report was available.

Skywarn Appreciation weekend is the weekend of Dec. 3 and 4th.

Echolink: KB3NAT asked if there was anyway that the Echolink could be turned off for Skywarn Nets.

N3NKV reported that there were two options:

- 1) KB3THU could switch to over to using the port 3 control frequency on 440 mhz.
- 2) Remote login via internet to echolink off.

KB3NAT reported that presently KB3THU can control his station via 146.61 simplex. KB3NAT mentioned that he will contact KB3THU about switching over to 440 mhz if possible,

440 Repeater Status: KB3NAT asked whether the 440 repeater was online. AD4UL mentioned that N3BXL would be able to provide information.

Motion to Adjourn made by KA3CPV and Seconded by KB3NAT at 8:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
John J Lis
Radio Association of Erie
2011 Secretary

President's Corner

I HOPE EVERYONE HAD A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND WE ALL HAVE A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO 2012 AND RAE CLUB ACTIVITIES THAT MAY COME UP, SO IF ANYONE HAS ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR CLUB ACTIVITIES PLEASE LET ME OR ONE OF THE BOARD MEMBERS KNOW. I WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING MEN WHO MADE THE ECHOLINK CONNECTION TO OUR REPEATERS POSSIBLE.

ADAM KERNOHAN KB3THU

BOB HERMANN W3IAX

RICK LORD N3BXJ

RON SEYBOLDT WB3DOM

JEFF SHROEDER

THIS GROUP DONATED EQUIPMENT AND COMPUTER EXPERTISE IN GETTING THE LINK UP AND RUNNING, AND I MIGHT ADD IT IS WORKING VERY WELL. BEING IN FLORIDA FOR THE WINTER, ECHOLINK ALLOWS ME TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH THINGS IN ERIE AND ALSO RUN THE 9PM RAGCHEW NET. HAVING THE LINK AVAILABLE HAS BROUGHT SOME EX-ERIEITES "OUT OF THE WOODWORK" AND WE HAVE THEM CHECKING INTO THE NET AS WELL AS MAKING CONTACT WITH FOLKS IN ERIE AT OTHER TIMES. SO ONCE AGAIN THANKS!! SO I WILL SAY 73 FOR NOW AND PLEASE JOIN US ON THE 9PM RAGCHEW NET.

DOUG AD4UL

RAE's Slate of Officers and Board Members

President- Doug AD4UL

Vice President - Terry KA3UTD

Secretary- Adam KB3THU

Treasurer- George N3SRF

Board 1- Frank KB3NAT

2- Ron WB3DOM

3- Craig K3PLV

4- Ron N3BXL

5- John WB3IFD

Become published!!

I will accept articles for the March QUA-RAE up to February 23. Anything after that will go in next month's issue. I will accept articles, events, cartoons, pictures, Items wanted or for Sale. Material must be original or at least 50 years old to avoid copyright laws. If from another source, let me know so I can give credit Send stuff to jlindvay@msn.com.

"Albert Einstein, when asked to describe radio, replied: You see, wire telegraph is a kind of a very, very long cat. You pull his tail in New York and his head is meowing in Los Angeles. Do you understand this? And radio operates exactly the same way: you send signals here, they receive them there. The only difference is that there is no cat"

Erie Fire Communications

Erie Fire Communications was established November 4th, 1925 at 1115 Parade Street and known as the SIGNAL STATION. The 'state of the art' system was a GAMEWELL fire alarm system which utilized telegraph lines from pull boxes throughout the City of Erie. The alarms would be read and units dispatched over the same telegraph system with readers in each Fire Station. Units from the scene would communicate with the Signal Station using pre-determined codes via the telegraph keys located inside each alarm box. Alarm operators would then dispatch additional fire units if needed. You can see this system at the Erie Firefighters museum.

With the advent of radio's, Fire units were dispatched over the air. The name of Signal Station was changed over time to FIRE CONTROL and then eventually Fire Communications in the early 1990's. Over the years Erie Fire Communications adapted to the changing times using newer technologies to provide services to the citizens of Erie. In 2006 Fire Communications was relocated to a joint Communications Center with Erie Police dispatch at Erie City Hall. In February of 2009 the County of Erie assumed dispatch operations for City of Erie Public Safety Services(Fire and Police) at their newly constructed 911 Center in Summit Township. The 911 Center processed over 6300 Erie Fire calls during 2009. The Communications Coordinator serves as a liaison between the City of Thursday February 2, 2012 at the American Red Cross on Pittsburgh Ave at 7 pm.

Erie and the Erie County Department of Public Safety. Duties at the 911 Center include assisting in training, quality assurance, resolution of dispatch issues, and dispatch procedure standardization. Duties at Erie Fire include NFIRS quality assurance, communication coordination and maintaining the EFD dispatch redundancy system.

The Erie Fire Department operates on 4 high band VHF frequencies.

154.1450 Erie City Fire Department Tac II

154.2350 Erie City Fire Department F-3 Fire

154.3550 Erie City Fire Department F-4 Fire

154.4300 Erie Fire Department F-1 (Dispatch) Fire

Communications dispatches 6 Engine Companies, 2 Ladder/Tower Companies, and a Water Rescue Unit. 911 Telecommunicators are tasked with the dispatch of Erie Fire Units.

10 reasons Why you should join the RAE

1. You get the Qua-Rae, the only local ham publication in the area.
2. You get a 1st class radio station to operate at our club location, new TS2000 and a 3 Element beam.
3. You get to support and use two first class modern repeaters.
4. You get Echo-link usage.
5. You get to attend a monthly ham radio program that is always interesting.
6. You get fellowship
7. You get a directory of Erie County hams.
8. You get to discuss your hobby and get help and advice from experts.
9. Hot dogs in the summer, muffins and donuts in the winter.
10. You are contributing to Erie's County's oldest ham club.

Radio Association of Erie Meeting

The next meeting of the Radio Association of Erie will be on Thursday February 2, 2012 at the American Red Cross on Pittsburgh Ave at 7 pm.

Program: Tour of Hygain Antenna and Rotor Factory

Beginning Sunday, January 22, it will cost more to mail first class letters, postcards and packages within the US. The cost to mail a first class letter will be 45 cents, an increase of 1 cent. According to the USPS, this is the first increase since May 2009. The cost of mailing a postcard will be 32 cents, an increase of 3 cents. This is the second increase for postcard postage in less than a year; in April 2011, the USPS boosted the postcard stamp price from 28 cents to 29 cents. You will also pay more to send letters to Canada, Mexico and other international destinations.

If you have any events you would like published, please send them to jlindvay@msn.com

February Calendar

Feb 2 at 7 PM RAE Club meeting

Feb 3 1500Z – 0400Z – Special Event Station - Death of Buddy Holly – W5B – Lubbock, Texas

Feb 4 1600Z – Feb 5 0059Z – Special Event Station – Ground hog Day- K3HWJ- Punxsutawney, Pa.

Feb 4 0000Z – Feb 5 2400Z - Vermont QSO Party

Feb 4 0001Z – Feb 5 2359Z Ten-Ten Winter Phone QSO Party

Feb 4 14000Z – 2400Z Minnesota QSO Party

Feb 4 1600Z – Feb 5 0400Z British Columbia QSO Party

Feb 4 1700Z – Feb 5 2359Z Delaware QSO Party

Feb 9 at 7 PM – Union City Wireless Club Meeting

Feb 11 1500Z – Feb 12 0300Z Louisiana QSO Party

Feb 11 1600Z – Feb 12 0400Z New Hampshire QSO Party

Feb 14 – Buy your XYL or YL a HT for Valentine's Day

Feb 14 at 7 PM Wattsburgh Wireless Club meeting

Feb 25 1500Z – Feb 26 0300Z Mississippi QSO Party

Feb 26 1700Z – Feb 27 0300Z North Carolina QSO Party